

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

other names PG:72-5

2. Location

street & number 8900 Central Avenue

☐ not for publication

city or town Landover

☒ vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Prince George's code 033 zip code 20785

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

2-1-05
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
 - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
 - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
2	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

African American Historic Resources in Prince George's County,
Maryland**number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: religious facility

FUNERARY: cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: religious facility

FUNERARY: cemetery

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 29TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Late

Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

PG:72-5
Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Prince George's County, Maryland
County and State

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church, constructed in 1921, is located on the north side of Central Avenue in the Landover vicinity of Prince George's County, Maryland. The 1-story, 3-bay, wood-frame, church retains its original form and features memorial stained-glass windows with peaked frames. The associated cemetery features hand-carved gravestones with a flower and vine motif. The property occupies a grassy, 1.26-acre site with mature trees and is located in what is now a busy suburban commercial and residential area. Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church was moved from its original location (a few yards to the southeast) to its current location in 1990.

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PG:72-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Name of Property

Prince George's County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church is located on the north side of Central Avenue, a heavily-traveled, 4-lane road in the Landover vicinity of Prince George's County, Maryland. The surroundings consist of busy suburban shopping centers and residential developments. The property is accessed via Brightseat Road to the north. Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church occupies a grassy, 1.26-acre lot with mature deciduous trees. Stands of trees surround the property on its west, north, and east. The property includes a recent driveway and parking lot on its east, the 1921 church building in its center, and the 1892 cemetery on its west.

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church is a 1-story, 3-bay, wood-frame church with a front-gable roof. It consists of a 1921 block on the south and a small 1940s extension on the north. The church was moved from its original location (a few yards to the southeast) to its current location in 1990.¹ The corners of the original concrete foundation of the 1921 church remain in place a few yards southwest of the current church. Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church has a 1990 poured concrete foundation, wood drop siding with cornerboards, and a 2002 asphalt-shingle roof with open eaves and fascia boards.² A parge chimney stack rises from the east slope of the roof. The main entry to the church is through a small, front-gable vestibule that projects from the south elevation of the church. The vestibule has double, wood, 5-panel doors with recent hardware. The east and west walls of the vestibule each have a window. The 1921 section of the church has peaked window openings. The double-hung, stained-glass windows date to the 1940s and have diamond and square patterns in red, blue, gold, turquoise, and green. Each window is a memorial to a past member of the church. The 1940s section of the church has flat double-hung windows, some with stained-glass inserts.

The interior of the church was restored after the building was moved in 1990. The interior features an original yellow pine floor, original beadboard wainscoting, window surrounds from 1990, and original oak pews, altar rail, and chairs.³ The pews, altar rail, and chairs feature a pointed-arch, Gothic Revival motif. The upper walls and ceiling are drywall and date to 2002 when the church suffered a fire that destroyed the original plaster. A pastor's study has been partitioned off in the northwest corner of the church. A drywalled chimney stack, where the original wood stove was located, projects from the east wall.

The cemetery, which dates to 1892, occupies the west end of the property. The approximately one-half acre cemetery retains its rural feeling. It has about 20 gravestones arranged in orderly rows and grouped by families. The stones date from the 1910s to the 1940s. Most of the stones are hand-carved. Many feature a carved flower and vine motif.

¹ The church was moved by the State Highway Administration in preparation for the widening of Central Avenue.

² The roof was replaced following a fire in 2002.

³ According to Mildred Ridgley Gray, the pews, altar rail, and chairs were ordered from the Cokesbury Company, a Methodist supplier of church furnishings.

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Section 7 Page 3

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Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church
Name of Property

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The cemetery was examined in 1983 by a professional archaeologist in cooperation with the Prince George's County Genealogical Society.⁴ The earliest graves were unmarked, but many have been located and marked with yellow flags.

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church retains its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Although the church has been moved, the spatial relationship between the church and cemetery and the interior arrangement of the church are unchanged. The church retains its design and form. With the exception of the church's foundation, interior window surrounds, ceiling, and roof, the original materials and workmanship are intact and unchanged. Despite its suburban surroundings, the property, with its grassy lawn and trees, retains the feeling of a small, rural church. Finally, the church retains its historic associations. It is still owned by its original congregation and continues in use as a church.

⁴ Elaine Entwisle, Ridgley-Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery, Prince George's County Genealogical Society, 1983.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☒ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☒ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☒ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African American

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1871-1964

Significant Dates

1871: 1/2 acre of land deeded to Lewis Ridgley for church

1892: 1 acre of land deeded to church for cemetery

1921: original church burned, current church constructed

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

African American

Architect/Builder

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Prince George's County Planning Department

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 1

PG:72-5
Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Name of Property

Prince George's County, Maryland

County and State

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church is significant for its association with the themes "The end of Reconstruction in Prince George's County, 1872-1896," "*Plessy vs. Ferguson* and the institution of government-sanctioned segregation in Prince George's County, 1896-1916, and "Suburban settlement in Prince George's County: The African American experience, 1896-1964." These themes are set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation for African American Historic Resources in Prince George's County. Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church, founded in 1871, now includes a cemetery begun in 1892 and a church constructed in 1921. The church was the spiritual and social center of the formerly rural African American farming community of Ridgley in the area now generally known as Landover. The property is an outstanding example of the form of a rural, African American church, and its cemetery holds the potential to yield information about traditional African American religious beliefs and practices.

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church derives its primary significance from its association with the African American community. Although it was moved to a different location within the church property, it remains within its original immediate setting and environment. Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church is one of only a handful of African American church buildings in Prince George's County that retains its original rural form. The church is one of only two remaining community buildings associated with the African American community of Ridgley. (The other is Ridgley School, constructed 1927.) The Church illustrates how rural forms and models persisted even as Prince George's County became increasingly suburban in character.

The period of significance begins in 1871 with the acquisition of the property by the founders of the church and continues through 1964, the end date of the associated theme, "Suburban settlement in Prince George's County: The African American experience, 1896-1964."

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Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church
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Section 8 Page 2

Prince George's County, Maryland
County and State

RESOURCE HISTORY AND HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church was the center of the rural, African American farming community that developed along Central Turnpike (now Central Avenue) after the Civil War. Lewis Ridgley held the first services for the congregation in his home. In January 1871, he and the other trustees of the congregation (Joseph Beall and Richard Cook) acquired one-half acre from Thomas E. and Bettie Berry for "a place of Divine Worship for the use of the Ministry and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church."⁵ Members of the congregation began construction of the church in the spring of 1871, hauling logs from the site to a nearby mill and bartering unneeded logs in exchange for the sawing of lumber. The 1-room, whitewashed building opened the following fall.⁶

In 1892, the trustees (Lewis Ridgley, Samuel Lofton, Lewis Cook, Franklin Douglas, and Frank Johnson) bought an additional acre from Bettie Berry for "Divine Worship and Cemetery." The earliest graves are unmarked; the first hand-carved headstones date to the 1910s.⁷

In 1921, the first Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church burned to the ground. Congregants immediately constructed the current building and bought its furnishings with the proceeds from bake sales, produce stands, and other fundraisers.⁸ During the late 1940s, an addition on the north end of the building provided space for a choir loft and organ as well as a partial basement and central heating system.⁹

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church was the center of the African American community in the formerly rural Landover area. The first church doubled as a school and meeting hall until construction of Ridgley School ca. 1880. Church social

⁵ Mildred Ridgley Gray, *Like Those Who Dream*, 2. Thomas E. and Bettie Berry were white landowners and former slave holders. Many congregants of Ridgley Church were former slaves or descendants of slaves who worked on the Berry farms (Bianca Floyd in Gray, 15-16).

⁶ Mildred Ridgley Gray, *Like Those Who Dream*, 3.

⁷ Mildred Ridgley Gray, *Like Those Who Dream*, 3-4; Cemetery information compiled by Elaine Entwisle, Prince George's County Genealogical Society, 1983.

⁸ Mildred Ridgley Gray, *Like Those Who Dream*, 4-5.

⁹ Mildred Ridgley Gray, *Like Those Who Dream*, 5.

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activities over the years included Children's Day, Women's Day, Men's Day, gospel singing, camp meetings, and Sunday dinners on the lawn.¹⁰

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church merged with Seat Pleasant Larger Parish United Methodist Church in 1980. The combined congregation changed its name to Gethsemane United Methodist Church in 1982.

In 1986, plans to widen Central Avenue began. Ridgley Church was originally slated for demolition. After a lengthy battle that involved court hearings and help from local, state, and federal politicians, the State Highway Administration agreed to move the church several yards to the northeast and pay for its restoration. The restored Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church was rededicated in 1990. New Rock Church of Fire, Inc., currently leases the building.

¹⁰ Bianca Floyd in Mildred Ridgley Gray, *Like Those Who Dream*, 16; Gray, 5.

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PG:72-5
Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Section 9 Page 1

Prince George's County, Maryland
County and State

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

- Entwisle, Elaine. Ridgley-Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery. Prince George's County Genealogical Society, 1983. [Prince George's County Planning Department]
- Gray, Mildred Ridgley. Like Those Who Dream: A History of Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church, Prince George's County, Maryland. 1990. [Prince George's County Planning Department]
- Pearl, Susan G. *African-American Heritage Survey, 1996*. Upper Marlboro, MD: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 1996.
- Royall, Roderick. Ridgley Church has new site for new life. *Prince George's Journal*. May 5, 1989.

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property 1.26 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1 8	3 3 9	3 3 6	4 3 0 6	3 3 0	3												
	Zone	Easting			Northing			Zone	Easting			Northing						
2																		
4																		

☐ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared Byname/title Betty Bird, Julie DarsieOrganization Betty Bird & Associatesdate August 2003street & number 2607 24th St. NW, Suite 3telephone (202) 588-9033city or town Washington, District of Columbiastate N/Azip code 20008**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name Methodist Episcopal Church c/o Mildred R. Graystreet & number 10450 Lottsford Road, #4109telephone (301) 925-7599city or town Mitchellvillestate Marylandzip code 20721-2734

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church
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Section 10 Page 1

Prince George's County, Maryland
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

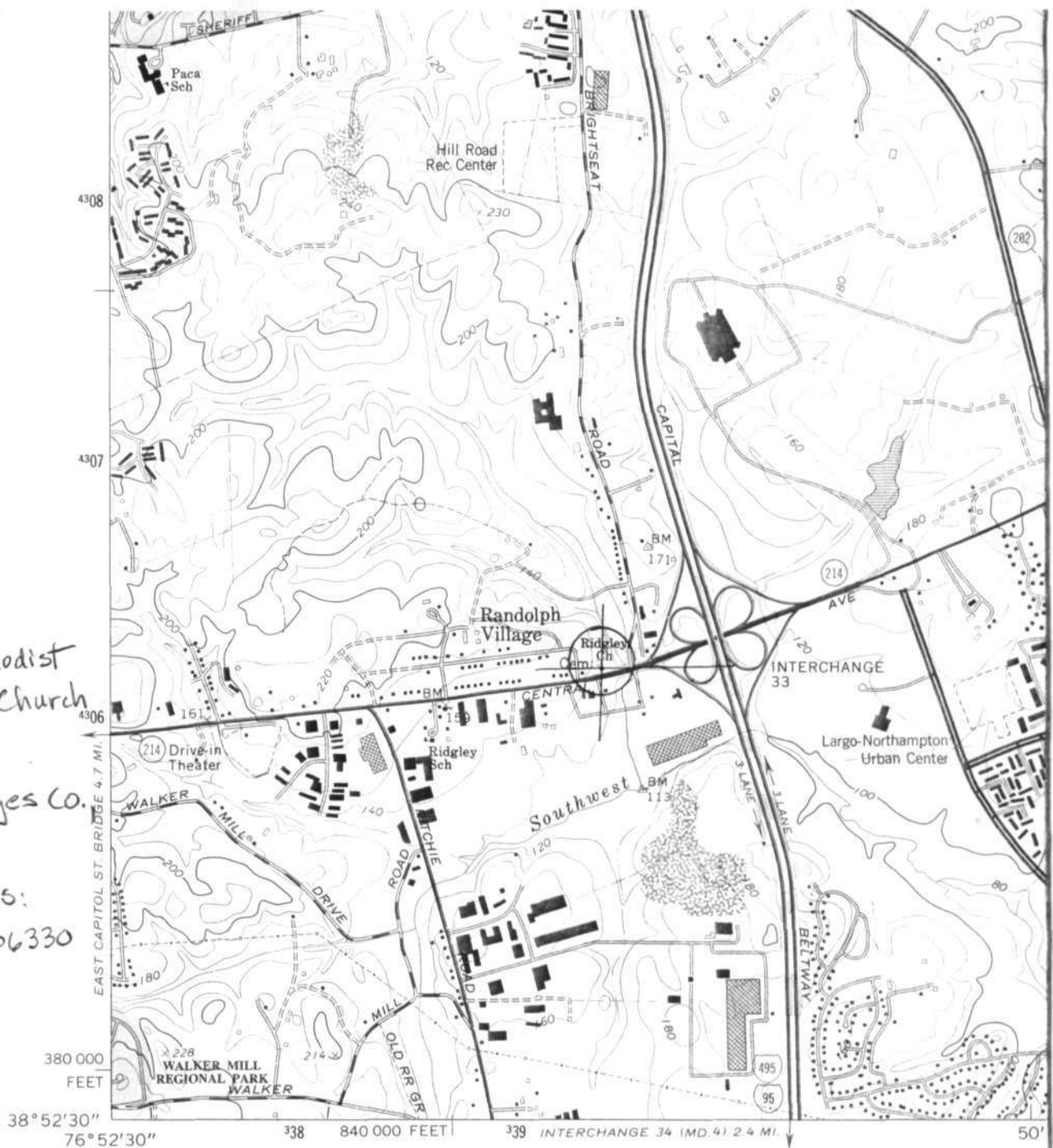
The National Register boundary for Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church is identical to that of Prince George's County Tax Map 67, Lot 99. The boundary encompasses 1.26 acres.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The above-described National Register boundary encompasses what remains of the 1.5 acres deeded to Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church in 1871 and 1892. Approximately 0.25 acre was acquired by the State Highway Administration for widening of Central Avenue.

PG: 72-5
 Ridgley Methodist
 Episcopal Church
 Landover,
 Prince Georges Co.
 MD

UTM References:
 18/339336/4306330

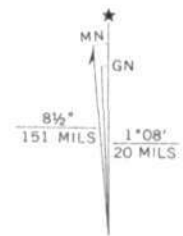


(ANACOSTIA)
 5661 IV SW

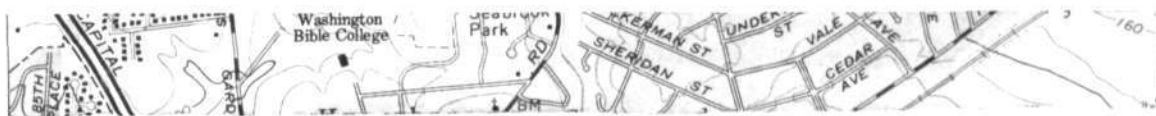
Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1938 and 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
 Revised by the Geological Survey 1965
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system.
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



UTM GRID AND 1979 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET





PG '72-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Daise for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

South and west elevations

1 of 14

2040211 N N N 22



PG: 72-5

Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince Georges County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

South elevation

2 of 14

7040211 N N 22



PG: 72-5

Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince Georges County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

West elevation

3 of 14

7040211 N N 22



PG 72-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

West and north elevations

4 of 14

20040211 N N N 12



PG: 72-5

Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Dursie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

North and east elevations

5 of 14

2040211 N N N 12



PG:72-5

Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince Georges County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Interior, view north toward altar

Co of 14

7040211 NNNN



PG: 72-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Interior, view south toward entry.

7 of 14

2040211 NNNN2



PG: 72-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince Georges County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Row of gravestones in cemetery

8 of 14

2040211 N N N 22



PG: 72-5

Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince Georges County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Gravestones in cemetery

9 of 14

2040211 N N 22



RENNANCE

PG:72-5

Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Hand made gravestone

10 of 14

7040211 N N N 22

MEMORIAL
OF
HARRIET
FLORENCE
BORN 1861
DIED Dec. 1924
At Rest

RIDLEY

PG: 72-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince Georges County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Hand made gravestone

11 of 14

20040211 N N N 22



BESSE
STEVART

PG 172-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Hand made gravestones

12 of 14

7040211 N N N 22



PG: 72-5

Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Corners of concrete foundation at former
location of church (foreground)

13 of 14

2040211 N N N 12



PG: 72-5

Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church

Prince George's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

August 2003

MD SHPO

Church in its environs: lawn and cemetery to north
and east, Central Avenue to south,

14 of 14

2040211 N N 12

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Ridgely Methodist Church Survey Number: PG 72A-5
Project: Metrorail Extension: Addison Rd. to Largo Agency: MTA
Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name Date
Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: X A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

interior
Ridgely Methodist Church is located at 8900 Central Avenue, just east of Interchange 33 off ~~US Route~~ 95 and east of Seat Pleasant, in Prince George's County, MD. The property, which consists of a church building, erected in 1921 and moved in 1987 25 feet from its original location, and its associated church yard and burial ground with hand-carved gravestones, is considered eligible for individual listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Ridgely Church is a small, frame basilican-plan church covered with a gable roof with exposed rafter ends and featuring a gable-roofed entry narthex. The building is set upon a concrete slab foundation and is three bays wide, with a central entry bay, flanked by pointed arch stained glass windows. The church was originally two bays deep, but has been extended by an additional, long bay. The interior consists of a nave with eight rows of piers, and three-level altar in the addition. To the north of the church is a burial ground with privately carved gravestones dating from the early years of this century.

Ridgely Methodist Church was built to replace an older church building, erected in the 1880s and destroyed by fire in 1921. The property was originally owned by Thomas E. Berry who deeded the land in 1871 to three black men "as a place of divine worship--of the Methodist Episcopal Church." The church came to be known as Ridgely Church in honor of its most active trustee, Lewis Ridgely. Following the fire which destroyed the original church building, a new building was erected, following the basic plan and size of the original. In 1987, the Maryland State Highway Administration moved the historic church northward on its lot in order to protect the structure from proposed improvements to Central Avenue. Part of the project to move the church included the dedication of a basement meeting room and museum display documenting the evolution of the area and African American history.

The church is a significant example of a simple meeting house structure built by and for the local African American community. Although the church was moved within the last 10 years, the building still possesses good integrity of workmanship, feeling, materials, association and design; further, the site has served the local African American community for over 120 years. The church is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, as documentation of significant trends in the evolution of Prince George's County and its African American residents.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance

Prepared by: Susan G. Pearl, MHT form, 1987; Margaret Slater, Historic Preservation Specialist, Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc., "Assessment of Effects to Architectural/Historical Properties Pursuant to 36 CFR 800, Proposed Addison Road to Largo Town Center Metrorail Extension, Prince George's County, MD.", 1996; Amended Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, Ridgely Methodist Church, KCI Technologies, 1996.

Kimberly Prothro Williams
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

June 20, 1996
Date

NR program concurrence: ☒ yes ☐ no ☐ not applicable

Peter E. Kuntz
Reviewer, NR program

6/24/96
Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Shore	(all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Western Shore	(Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
<input type="checkbox"/> Piedmont	(Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Maryland	(Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

<input type="checkbox"/> Paleo-Indian	10000-7500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Archaic	7500-6000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle Archaic	6000-4000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Late Archaic	4000-2000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Woodland	2000-500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle Woodland	500 B.C. - A.D. 900
<input type="checkbox"/> Late Woodland/Archaic	A.D. 900-1600
<input type="checkbox"/> Contact and Settlement	A.D. 1570-1750
<input type="checkbox"/> Rural Agrarian Intensification	A.D. 1680-1815
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural-Industrial Transition	A.D. 1815-1870
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
<input type="checkbox"/> Modern Period	A.D. 1930-Present
<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Period (<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> historic)	

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

<input type="checkbox"/> Subsistence
<input type="checkbox"/> Settlement
<input type="checkbox"/> Political
<input type="checkbox"/> Demographic
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input type="checkbox"/> Technology
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Adaptation

IV. Historic Period Themes:

<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
<input type="checkbox"/> Government/Law
<input type="checkbox"/> Military
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Educational/Cultural
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Religious Structure/Church

Known Design Source: _____

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #72A-5 Building Date: 1921

Building Name: Ridgely Methodist Church

Location: 8900 Central Avenue, Landover, Maryland

Private/Religious/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Ridgely Church is a small frame gable-roof church structure of the meeting house type, distinguished by a series of stained glass windows, and an adjoining burial ground with hand-carved stones. The church building is three bays long, extended from its original two-bay length. Entrance is through in a vestibule at the south gable end. The nave comprises the two southerly bays of the building (the original structure) and is lighted by pointed-arch windows filled with stained glass memorials. The original German siding is now covered by gray "brick-tex" asphalt shingle. The gable roof is covered with black asbestos shingle, and the eaves are punctuated by exposed rafter ends. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation; in the southeast corner is a cornerstone which reads "Ridgely M.E. Church 1887-1921." Interior consists of a nave with eight rows of pews, and a three-level altar in the north addition. To the north and west of the church is a burial ground with handsome, primitively-carved gravestones dating from the early years of this century.

Significance

Ridgely Methodist Church is a significant example of a simple meetinghouse church structure, built in 1921 to replace an earlier building; it is distinguished by its stained glass memorial windows, its adjoining burial ground with hand-carved stones, and its long association with the local black community. In 1871 Thomas E. Berry deeded to three black men one-half acre of land on the north side of the "central turnpike", to be used "as a place of divine worship -- of the Methodist Episcopal Church." The first church structure was erected in the 1880's. In 1892 Mrs. Berry deeded another acre, adjoining the church lot on the west, "provided that said lot shall be kept for Divine Worship and cemetery." The church came to be known as Ridgely Church in honor of its most active trustee, Lewis Ridgely; members of Ridgely's family continued to be active in the church and in the local black education movement. In 1921, the church burned to the ground, and was replaced by the present structure a short distance to the west. After World War II, the church was expanded by an additional bay to the north and stained glass windows were installed in memory of members of the congregation. Today the church fronts directly on a busy highway; in spite of dense development, the church yard and burial ground retain much of the tranquil beauty of the original situation. Together with its predecessor, Ridgely Church has served the local black community for over 115 years.

Acreage: 1.275 acres

Magi No.

DOE yes no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Ridgely Methodist Churchand/or common Ridgely Church of God in Christ

2. Location

street & number 8900 Central Avenue not for publicationcity, town Landover vicinity of congressional district 5state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> X </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> X </u> building(s)	<u> X </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> X </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> X </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u> X </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of United Methodist Churchstreet & number 8118 Central Avenue telephone no.: city, town Landover state and zip code Maryland 20786

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber JWB #23street & number Main Street folio 471city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sitesdate 1974/1981 federal state X county local depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, MNCPPCcity, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. PG #72A-5

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Ridgely Church is a small frame gable-roof church structure of the meeting house type. It fronts upon a heavily travelled highway in a rapidly developing area just within the Capital Beltway; it is distinguished by a series of stained glass memorial windows, and an adjoining burial ground with hand-carved stones.

The church building is three bays long, extended from its original two-bay length. Entrance is through in a vestibule at the south gable end. Entrance into the vestibule is through plain modern double doors. The vestibule is lighted by pointed-arch windows in its east and west facades. The nave comprises the two southerly bays of the building, i.e., the original structure, and is lighted by pointed-arch windows: 1/1 double hung sash surmounted by a pedimented transom. These four pointed-arch windows, as well as the two similar windows which light the vestibule, are filled with stained glass memorials which replace the original clear glass.

The windows in the northmost bays of the east and west facades are plain 1/1 double hung sash, filled with stained glass; they light the altar (on the east) and the pastor's study (on the west). Across the north gable end are five windows: three small 1/1 double hung sash windows sideby side, flanked by two larger 1/1 sashes. All windows have narrow molded surrounds.

The original German siding is now covered by gray "brick-tex" asphalt shingle. The gable roof is covered with black asbestos shingle. There is a clearly visible seam in the roof between the original two-bay church structure and the north addition. The roof has a noticeable overhang, and the eaves are punctuated by exposed rafter ends. The rake boards at the gable ends are painted white. Between first and second bays in the east plane of the roof is a stuccoed chimney, marking the location of the original stove. The main front of the building rests on a poured concrete foundation; in the southeast corner is a cornerstone which reads "Ridgely M.E. Church 1887-1921."

The foundation of the north addition is of concrete block. There is a basement under the north section only; it includes the heating plant, which superseded the original stove heating system. There is an entrance to the basement at grade level in the east foundation, and the basement is lighted by two small windows on the north and on the west.

One enters the nave through double doors, five panels each, from the south vestibule; there are eight rows of pews, and a three-level altar in the north addition. A pastor's study has been partitioned out of the west third of the altar space. The pews are highlighted by molded gothic arches. The altar rail is decorated with gothic arches with tracery, and panelled posts

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. PG #72A-5

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

with the same molded gothic arches. The lower section of the walls is panelled with narrow beaded wainscoting. The wainscoting differs between the nave and the altar space, and the line of demarcation between original structure and north addition is clearly visible in the three-plane ceiling.

To the north and west of the church is a burial ground with handsome, primitively-carved gravestones dating from the early years of this century. To the east is open space where once stood the original late nineteenth century church. The 1 1/2 acre lot is bordered by trees in the rear (north) and fronts directly on Central Avenue (Maryland Route 214).

8. Significance

Survey No. PG #72A-5

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Black History

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
1921	

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Ridgely Methodist Church is a significant example of a simple meeting-house church structure built in the early years of this century. It was built in 1921 to replace the original meeting place which was destroyed by fire; it is distinguished by its stained glass memorial windows, its adjoining burial ground with hand-carved stones, and its 115-year association with the local black community.

In January 1871 Thomas E. Berry and his wife deeded to three black men one-half acre of their farm on the north side of the "central turn-pike", to be used "as a place of divine worship -- of the Methodist Episcopal Church." These three black trustees were Lewis Ridgely, Joseph Beall and Richard Cooke.¹ The first church structure was erected in the 1880's. In 1892 Mrs. Berry deeded another acre, adjoining the church lot on the west, to Lewis Ridgely, Samuel Lofton, Lewis Cook, Frank Douglas and Frank Johnson "provided that said lot shall be kept for Divine Worship and cemetery."² The church came to be known as Ridgely Church in honor of its most active trustee; members of Lewis Ridgely's family continued to be active in the church and in the local black education movement.

In 1921, the Ridgely Church burned to the ground, and was replaced by the present structure a short distance to the west of the original church, in essentially the same style. After World War II, the church was expanded by an additional bay to the north; a basement was excavated under this addition, and mechanical plant installed. A small pastor's study was created west of the altar. At approximately the same time, stained glass windows were installed in memory of active members of the congregation.³

Today the church fronts directly on a busy highway across from a large shopping center. In spite of dense development around it, the church yard and burial ground retain much of the tranquil beauty of the original situation. Together with its predecessor, Ridgely Church has served the local black community for over 115 years.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG #72A-5

Section 8 Page 2

Notes.

- 1 Prince George's County Deed HB #4:223.
- 2 Prince George's County Deed JWB #23:471.
- 3 Interview, February 1987, with Mildred Ridgely Grey.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG #72A-5

cf. Notes, Item #8;
cf. Chain of Title;

Interview with Mildred Ridgely Gray

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.275 acresQuadrangle name Lanham, Section GTax Map 67, parcel 99
Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing					

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing					

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historianorganization Historic Planning Commission, c/o MNCPPC date August, 1987street & number #4010 County Administration Building telephone 952-3521city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

CHAIN OF TITLE
RIDGELEY CHURCH
P.G.#72X-5

JWB#23:471
13 June 1892
Deed

Mrs. Elizabeth Berry to Lewis Ridgeley, Samuel Lofton, Lewis Cook, Frank Douglas and Frank Johnson, trustees and their successors of the Methodist Church; that portion of the "manor" beginning at a stake on the north side of Central Turnpike , , 1 acre provided said lot shall be kept for Divine Worship and Cemetery and for no other use. adjoining present church lot
diagram

HB#4:223
9 Jan 1871
Deed

Thomas E. Berry and his wife Bettie to Lewis Ridgeley (colored), Joseph Beall (colored) and Richard Cook (colored) as trustees; $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of the manor, provided said premises shall be kept and used as a place of divine worship for the use of the Ministry and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church

72A-5 Ridgely Church (1921)
8900 Central Avenue, Largo, Md.
1½ acres, Priv/occ/relig/good

The Ridgely Church is a one-story frame structure, three bays wide; the entrance is in the south gable end through a small vestibule, with one window on each side of the vestibule. All of the windows have pointed arches and are filled with stained glass, commemorating several families (e.g., Ridgely, Cook, Grey, etc.) prominent in the church's history.

One half acre on the north side of the "central turnpike" was given in 1871 by Thomas E. Berry and his wife to Lewis Ridgely and two other black trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be used "as a place of divine worship". A church was built on this parcel almost immediately, and there were a few burials in the small churchyard. In 1892 Thomas E. Berry's widow sold to Ridgely and four other black trustees (for \$20) an additional acre of land adjoining the church lot on the west. An expanded graveyard with beautiful, primitively carved stones was begun at the western edge of this property.

In 1921, the original church burned to the ground, and the present church was built, in essentially the same style as the original. It stands, however, on the one-acre lot, a short distance west of the original church site. It has come to be known as the Ridgely Church after its founder, Lewis Ridgely. Together with its predecessor, this church has served the local black community continuously for 110 years. Although it fronts on a busy dual highway across from a large shopping center, and is threatened by encroaching development, the church yard retains much of the beauty and tranquility of its original situation.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

P.G.#724:5
(revised information entered 11/9/01)

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ridgely Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

8900 Central Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Largo

VICINITY OF

Randolph Village

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Prince George's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☒ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Seat Pleasant Methodist Church

Telephone #: 336-1219

STREET & NUMBER

910 Addison Road, South

CITY, TOWN

Seat Pleasant, Md

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

P.G. Co. Courthouse

Liber #: HB#4

Folio #: 223

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro, Md.

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

P.G. Co. Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE

1974

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Calvert Mansion, MNCPPC, 4811 Riverdale Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Riverdale, Md. 20737

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

PG: 72-5

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ridgely Church is a one-story frame structure, three bays wide; the entrance is in the south gable end through a small vestibule, with one window on each side of the vestibule. All of the windows have pointed arches and are filled with stained glass, commemorating several families (e.g., Ridgely, Cook, Grey, etc.) prominent in the church's history. The church building is now sheathed with synthetic masonry siding.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1921

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

One half acre on the north side of the "central turn-pike" was given in 1871 by Thomas E. Berry and his wife to Lewis Ridgely and two other black trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be used "as a place of divine worship".¹ A church was built on this parcel almost immediately, and there were a few burials in the small churchyard. In 1892 Thomas E. Berry's widow sold to Ridgely and four other black trustees (for \$20) an additional acre of land adjoining the church lot on the west.² An expanded graveyard with beautiful, primitively carved stones was begun at the western edge of this property.

In 1921, the original church burned to the ground, and the present church was built, in essentially the same style as the original. It stands, however, on the one-acre lot, a short distance west of the original church site. It has come to be known as the Ridgely Church after its founder, Lewis Ridgely. Together with its predecessor, this church has served the local black community continuously for 110 years. Although it fronts on a busy dual highway across from a large shopping center, and is threatened by encroaching development, the church yard retains much of the beauty and tranquility of its original situation.

1. HB#4:223 (deed)

2. JWB#23:471

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PG:72-5

Deeds HB#4:223; JWB#23:471

Interview with parishioner, descendant of Lewis Ridgeley

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan G. Pearl

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Historical & Cultural Trust

DATE

June 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert Mansion, MNCPPC, 4811 Riverdale Rd.

TELEPHONE

779-2011

CITY OR TOWN

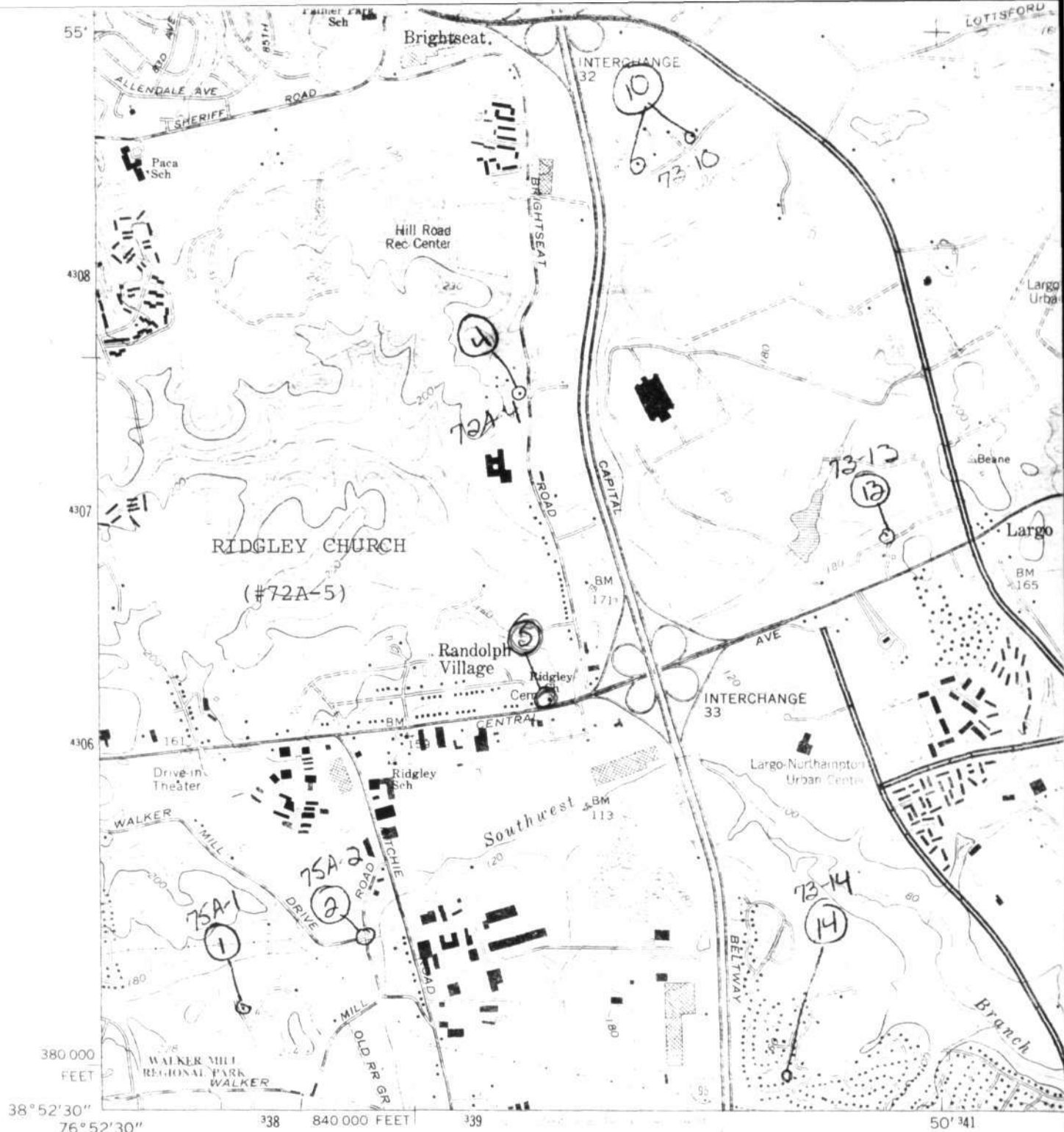
Riverdale, Md. 20737

STATE

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



(ANACOSTIA)
5661 IV SW

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1938 and 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
Revised by the Geological Survey 1965

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18,
shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



UTM GRID AND 1979 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

PG: 72-5

1701494508

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Ridgley United Methodist Church				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Central Avenue west of Rte. 495 (Beltway)				
CITY OR TOWN: Largo				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No		
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				
Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building is a frame structure with a gabled facade. Triangular headed windows flank the gabled entrance porch. The side walls are three bays with triangular pedimented windows. The sash are 1/1 double hung with colored glass. The church is now covered with asbestos siding.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th-Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The church is an early Negro congregation, dating from the mid-nineteenth century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	0	'	"		0	'	"	
NE	0	'	"		0	'	"	
SE	0	'	"		0	'	"	
SW	0	'	"		0	'	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

MNCPPC

DATE

13 Sept 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

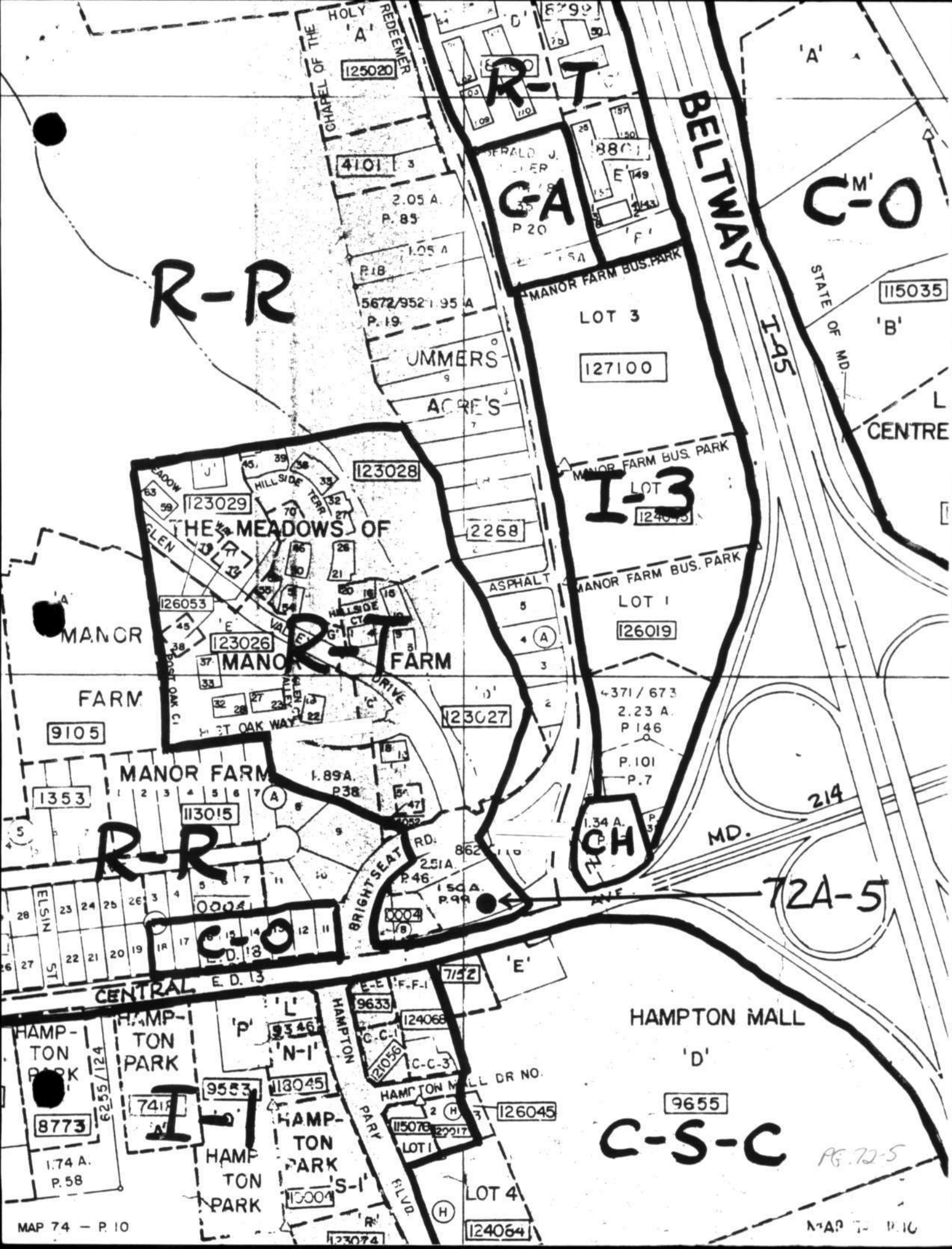
CHAIN OF TITLE
RIDGELEY CHURCH
P.G.#72A-5

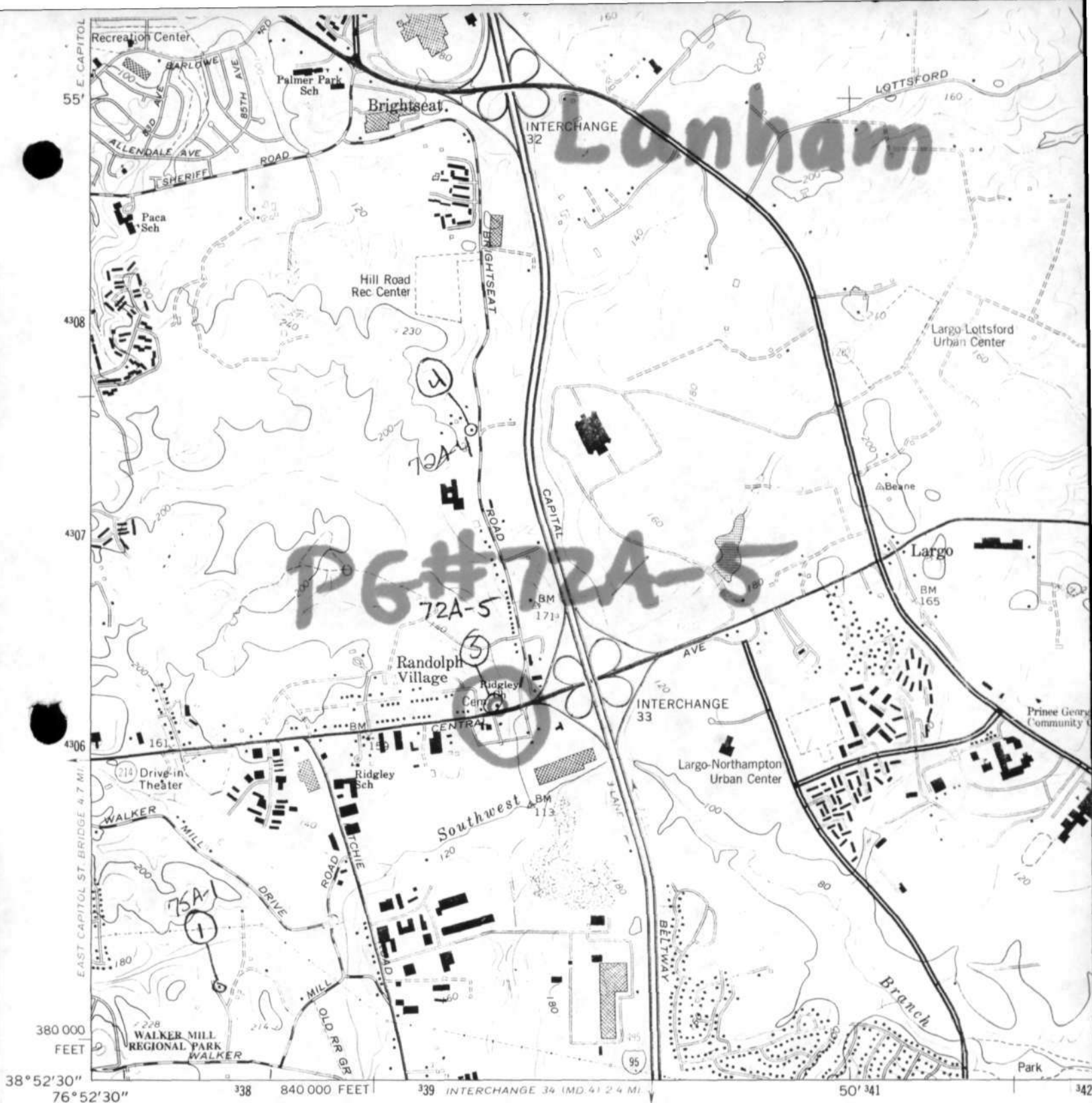
JWB#23:471
13 June 1892
Deed

Mrs. Elizabeth Berry to Lewis Ridgeley, Samuel Lofton, Lewis Cook, Frank Douglas and Frank Johnson, trustees and their successors of the Methodist Church; that portion of the "manor" beginning at a stake on the north side of Central Turnpike , , 1 acre provided said lot shall be kept for Divine Worship and Cemetery and for no other use. adjoining present church lot
diagram

HB#4:223
9 Jan 1871
Deed

Thomas E. Berry and his wife Bettie to Lewis Ridgeley (colored), Joseph Beall (colored) and Richard Cook (colored) as trustees; $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of the manor, provided said premises shall be kept and used as a place of divine worship for the use of the Ministry and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church





Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
 taken 1938 and 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
 Revised by the Geological Survey 1965

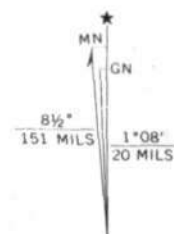
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18,
 shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
 generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
 the National or State reservations shown on this map

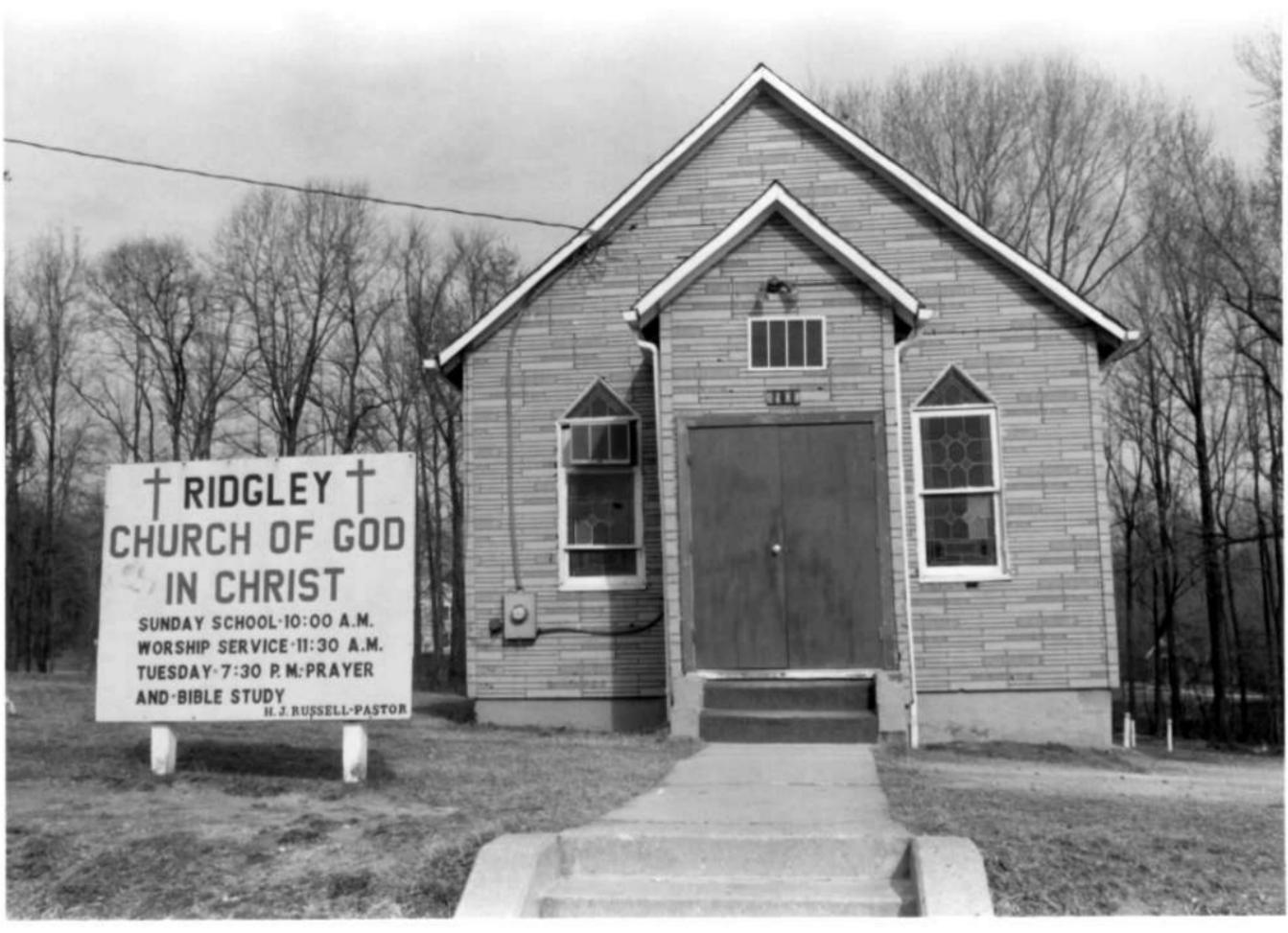
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



UTM GRID AND 1979 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP CO
 FOR SALE BY
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING

P6:72-5



† RIDGLEY †
CHURCH OF GOD
IN CHRIST

SUNDAY SCHOOL-10:00 A.M.
WORSHIP SERVICE-11:30 A.M.
TUESDAY-7:30 P.M.-PRAYER
AND BIBLE STUDY
H. J. RUSSELL-PASTOR

P.G.#72A-5

Ridgely Church
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
February 1987
South Elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #72A-5

Ridgely Church
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
February 1987
Southwest 3/4 elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #72~~X~~-5

Ridgely Church
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
February 1987
East elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



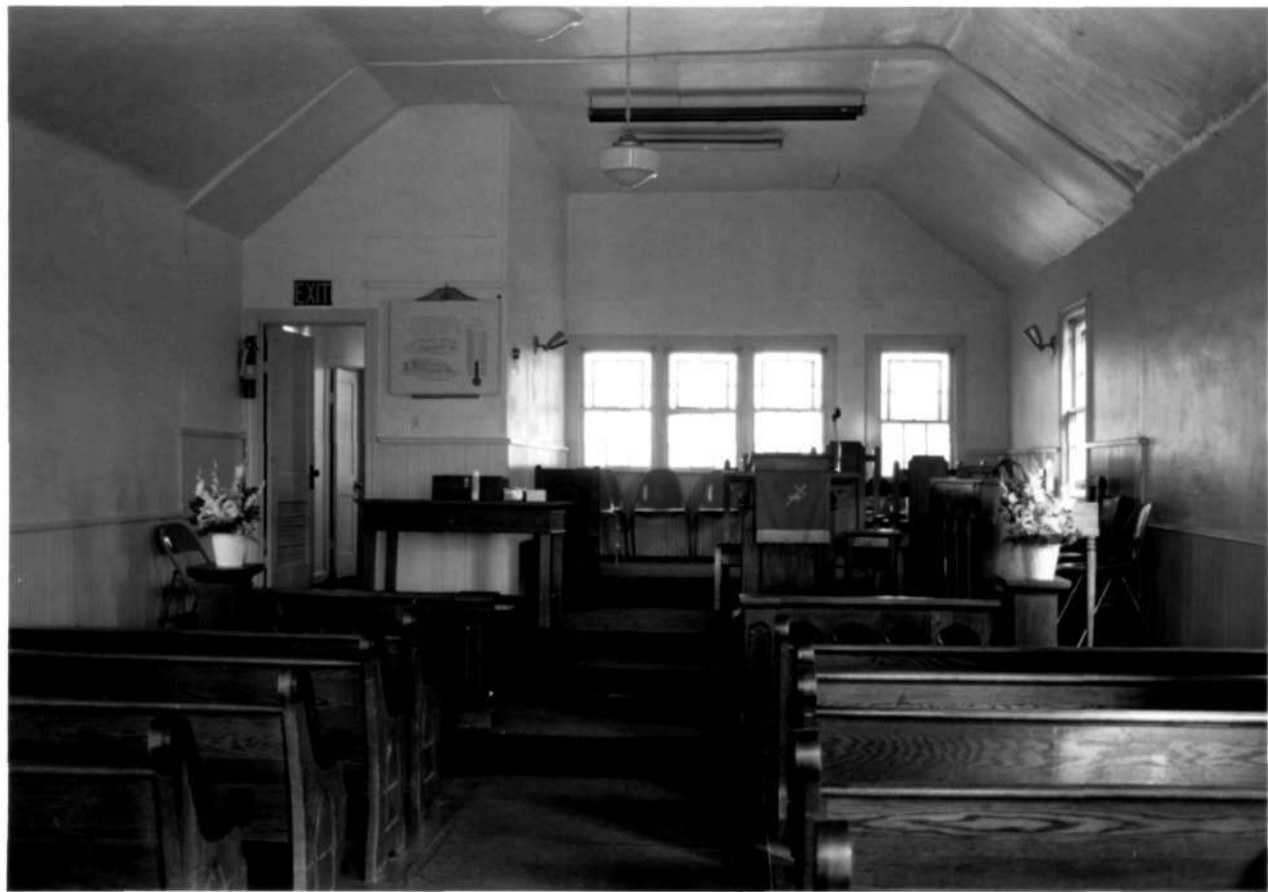
P.G. #72A-5

Ridgely Church
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
February 1987
Northeast 3/4 elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.

ADDED
IN MEMO
OF
EMANUEL
COOK
BORN JUNE 5,
1845.
DIED OCT. 26,
1923.
WILLIAM STINEBAUGH

P.G. #72A-5

Ridgely Church
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
February 1987
Gravestone
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #72~~X~~-5

Ridgely Church
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
February 1987
Interior
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



NAME RIDGELY M.E. CHURCH

PG: 72-5

LOCATION Rt. 214 NEAR Rt. 495 LARGO, Md.

FACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 9/13/74 M DWYER



~~72A-5~~ P6: 72-5

Ridgely Church

Prime Georges Co, MD

Margaret Slater

10/24/95

Maryland SHP

Looking N at front (s) elevation

1 of 3



~~72A-5~~ PG: 72-5

Ridgely Church

Prince Georges Co. MD

Margaret Slater

10/24/95

Maryland SHPO

Looking NE at w. side
+ front

2 of 3



~~72A-5~~ PG: 72-5

Ridgely Church

Prince Georges Co, MD

Margaret Slater

10/24/95

Maryland SHPO

Looking West at cemetery

3 of 3